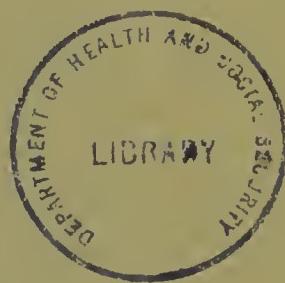


J

**CHELMSFORD
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL**



Annual Reports

OF

MEDICAL OFFICER of HEALTH

AND

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOR

1971

**CHELMSFORD
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL**

Annual Reports

OF

MEDICAL OFFICER of HEALTH

AND

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOR

1971

Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2017 with funding from
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b29101694>

STAFF

Clerk of the Rural District Council: C. A. Bohannon.
Deputy Clerk of the Rural District Council: F. R. Jones, Solicitor.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health: B. V. Hassan, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H. (also Medical Officer of Health to Borough of Maldon and Maldon Port Health Authority, Urban District of Burnham-on-Crouch, Rural District of Maldon, and Assistant County Medical Officer, Essex County Council).

Clerk to Medical Officer of Health:

Mrs. E. Seymer

CHIEF HEALTH INSPECTOR'S DEPARTMENT

Chief Health Inspector and Director of Public Cleansing:

T. H. C. Bartrop, F.R.S.H., F.A.P.H.I.

Deputy Chief Health Inspector:

L. G. Smart, F.R.S.H., F.I.P.H.E., M.A.P.H.I.

Health Inspectors:

R. F. S. Musgrave, M.A.P.H.I. (Senior Assistant)

F. B. Brewster, M.A.P.H.I.

G. D. Clare, M.A.P.H.I.

M. F. Lee, M.A.P.H.I.

R. A. Gates, M.A.P.H.I.

M. Salmon, M.A.P.H.I. (from July, 1971)

Meat Inspectors:

A. Philip

I. Lovie

Public Cleansing Supervisor:

C. Parker

Public Cleansing Inspector:

E. J. Moore

Clerical Staff:

R. H. Hawkes (Senior Clerk)

Mrs. A. B. Fleming (Secretary)

Miss C. Upshall (Clerk)

Mrs. M. Lovie (Clerk/Typist (Part-time))

W. Kentish (Public Cleansing Depot Clerk)

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

The Public Health Committee consists of the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Council and sixteen other members.

Chairman of Public Health Committee:

Mrs. J. C. Norton

Vice-Chairman of Public Health Committee:

Mr. D. Ashford

Members of Public Health Committee:

Mr. H. G. Copsey

Mr. J. N. Foxon (Vice-Chairman of the Council)

Mr. A. A. E. Hammond

Mr. E. J. Heywood

Mrs. M. J. Jowers

Mrs. T. A. King

Mr. H. P. Liberty

Mr. J. A. Matthews

Mr. G. Millington

Mr. W. H. Orr (Chairman of the Council)

Mr. H. S. H. Preston

Mr. G. T. H. Richards

Mr. B. Scarce

The Rev. W. J. T. Smith

Mr. F. B. Speakman

Mrs. J. Wood

To the Chairman & Members of the Chelmsford Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

The Annual Report on the health of the rural district for 1971 is presented for your information. The contents accord with the Public Health Officers Regulations 1959 and Circular 1/72 of the Department of Health and Social Security.

It is pleasant once more to be able to say that the statistics indicate a generally satisfactory state of health in the district.

The population in mid year is estimated by the Registrar General as 71,980 which is an increase of 8.0 per cent over 1970. In my opinion this is a false picture due to under-estimates of the population in previous years. The 1971 estimate is almost certainly accurate as it has been based on the provisional census figures of that year. Excess of births over deaths totalled 564 which indicates that 4796 persons have moved into the district during the year. Even with the amount of building which has taken place this would appear to be an unlikely figure.

Live births totalled 1,236 which is a slight increase compared to 1970. The crude birth rate per thousand population was 17.2 and the rate adjusted to enable direct comparisons to be made with other districts and the whole country was 16.9. By reason of the increased population these rates are almost exactly the same as last year, and the adjusted rate remains higher than the national rate of 16.0. Illegitimate live births were 4 per cent of total live births, contrasting favourably with the England and Wales figure of 8 per cent. The stillbirth rate at 11 per 1,000 live and stillbirths was also below the rate for England and Wales.

Total deaths in the district during the year were 672, a decrease of 14 compared to 1970. This resulted in a crude death rate per 1,000 home population of 9.3 and an adjusted rate of 8.5. It will be noted that this latter rate is almost 1 per 1,000 less than the previous year and over 3 per 1,000 less than the national figure of 11.6. Infant deaths too were reduced compared to 1970, and the rate per 1,000 live births, at 11 was favourably contrasted to the England and Wales figure of 18. Just under half of the 14 infant deaths were due to congenital abnormalities, and only one was due to birth injury or difficult labour. For yet another year it is a great pleasure to record that no woman in the district died as a result of pregnancy or childbirth (including abortion).

The causes of death are shown in a separate table and these are arranged in accordance with the international classification and by sex. As is now usual the largest group of diseases causing death are those involving the heart and circulation, including strokes. For the year under review these totalled 339 or 50 per cent of all deaths, which is close to the 1970 figure of just over 48 per cent. There were 13 more deaths from these causes in females, most of them occurring over the age of 75 and being due to the greater longevity of women. Deaths due

to cancers totalled 129 or 19 per cent of all deaths, and of these 33 were due to cancers of the lung or bronchus. There were 23 deaths classified as accidental and 9 of these involved motor vehicles. It is interesting to note that of these 9 deaths none occurred under 15 years of age. There were 6 suicides recorded during the year, 3 male and 3 female. Of the total deaths just 50 per cent were 75 or over.

There is little matter for comment in the table of notifiable diseases. Once again no cases of Poliomyelitis or the Enteric Fevers (Typhoid and Paratyphoid) were reported. The incidence of Measles was much reduced compared to 1970 and the number of cases of the other childhood fevers were also low.

I am indebted to the General Manager of the Essex Water Company (which took over the water supply to the district on 1st April, 1971) for the information regarding the supply; to the Chief Public Health Inspector and all the staff of the Public Health Department for their help during the year; to all the other Officers of the Council for their co-operation; and to my personal secretary for her help in compiling this report.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies & Gentlemen,

Yours Faithfully,

B. V. HASSAN, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.
Medical Officer of Health

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

(For comparison, figures in brackets refer to 1970)

General Data

Area (in acres)	86,506	(86,506)
No. of Houses	23,941	(23,507)
No. of Houses per acre (average)	0.27	(0.27)
No. of persons per house (average)	2.93	(2.83)
Rateable value	£2,554,402	£2,410,551
Product of a 1p rate	£24,924	(N/A)

Population

Resident Population (Reg. Gen's mid-year estimate)	71,980	(66,620)
Increase over previous year	5,360	(1,890)
Percentage increase	8.00	(2.92)
Natural increase (excess of births over deaths)	564	(455)
Increase due to immigration	4,796	(1,435)

BIRTHS

(a) Live births	M	F	Total
Legitimate	612 (572)	575 (532)	1,187 (1,104)
Illegitimate	30 (17)	19 (20)	49 (37)
<hr/>			
Total	642 (589)	594 (552)	1,236 (1,141)
<hr/>			
Crude birth rate per 1,000 population	17.2	(17.1)	
Adjusted birth rate	16.9	(16.8)	
Birth rate — England and Wales	16.0	(16.0)	
Ratio of adjusted birth rate to National Rate	1.05	(1.05)	
Illegitimate live births — % of total live births	4	(3)	
<hr/>			
(b) Still births			
Legitimate	7 (4)	7 (7)	14 (11)
Illegitimate	— (—)	— (1)	— (1)
<hr/>			
Total	7 (4)	7 (8)	14 (12)
<hr/>			
Still birth rate per 1,000 total births	11	(10)	
" " " " " " " " England and Wales ...	12	(13)	
<hr/>			
(c) Total births (Live and Still)			
Legitimate	619 (576)	582 (539)	1,201 (1,115)
Illegitimate	30 (17)	19 (21)	49 (38)
<hr/>			
Total	649 (593)	601 (560)	1,250 (1,153)
<hr/>			

DEATHS

(a) All ages	M 331 (335)	F 341 (351)	Total 672 (686)
--------------	----------------	----------------	--------------------

Crude death rate per 1,000 population	9.3	(10.3)
Adjusted death rate per 1,000 population	8.5	(9.4)
England and Wales per 1,000 population	11.6	(11.7)
Ratio of adjusted death rate to National Rate	0.73	(0.80)

(b) Deaths of Infants

(1) Under one year of age (Infants deaths)

Legitimate	8 (9)	5 (6)	13 (15)
Illegitimate	1 (1)	— (—)	1 (1)
Total	9 (10)	5 (6)	14 (16)

Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births	11	(14)
" " " " " England and Wales	18	(18)

(2) Under four weeks of age (Neonatal deaths)

Legitimate	7 (5)	4 (4)	11 (9)
Illegitimate	1 (1)	— (—)	1 (1)
Total	8 (6)	4 (4)	12 (10)

Neonatal mortality rate per 1,000 live births	10	(9)
" " " " " England and Wales	12	(12)

(3) Under one week of age (Early neonatal deaths)

Legitimate	4 (5)	4 (4)	8 (9)
Illegitimate	1 (1)	— (—)	1 (1)
Total	5 (6)	4 (4)	9 (10)

Early Neonatal mortality rate per 1,000 live births	7	(9)
" " " " " England and Wales	10	(11)

(4) Perinatal mortality (Stillbirths and deaths under one week of age combined)

Perinatal mortality rate per 1,000		
live and still births	18	(19)
England and Wales 22 (23)		

(c) Maternal mortality (deaths of women ascribed to pregnancy or childbirth, including abortion)

Maternal mortality rate per 1,000		
live and still births	—	(—)
England and Wales* 0.17 (0.18)		

*Calculated from the last four available quarters.

CAUSES OF DEATH

		Male	Female	Total
B.5	Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	1 (-)	- (-)	1 (-)
B.18	Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	1 (-)	- (2)	1 (2)
B.19(1)	Malignant Neoplasm, Buccal Cavity, etc.	1 (2)	2 (-)	3 (2)
B.19(2)	Malignant Neoplasm, Oesophagus	1 (1)	3 (1)	4 (2)
B.19(3)	Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	2 (7)	6 (8)	8 (15)
B.19(4)	Malignant Neoplasm, Intestine	8 (9)	8 (9)	16 (18)
B.19(5)	Malignant Neoplasm, Larynx	1 (1)	- (2)	1 (3)
B.19(6)	Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	25 (23)	8 (8)	33 (31)
B.19(7)	Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	- (-)	17 (10)	17 (10)
B.19(8)	Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	- (-)	1 (2)	1 (2)
B.19(9)	Malignant Neoplasm, Prostate	4 (6)	- (-)	4 (6)
B.19(10)	Leukaemia	2 (3)	2 (-)	4 (3)
B.19(11)	Other Malignant Neoplasms	18 (14)	17 (19)	35 (33)
B.20	Benign and Unspecified Neoplasms	1 (2)	2 (-)	3 (2)
B.21	Diabetes Mellitus	4 (4)	7 (5)	11 (9)
B.46(1)	Other Endocrine etc. Diseases	- (1)	2 (2)	2 (3)
B.23	Anaemias	- (2)	3 (2)	3 (4)
B.46(3)	Mental Disorders	2 (-)	3 (7)	5 (7)
B.24	Meningitis	1 (-)	- (-)	1 (-)
B.46(4)	Multiple Sclerosis	1 (1)	2 (2)	3 (3)
B.46(5)	Other Diseases of Nervous System	2 (3)	4 (2)	6 (5)
B.26	Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	5 (2)	7 (5)	12 (7)
B.27	Hypertensive Disease	6 (6)	6 (7)	12 (13)
B.28	Ischaemic Heart Disease	93 (90)	69 (59)	162 (149)
B.29	Other Forms of Heart Disease	8 (13)	20 (20)	28 (33)
B.30	Cerebrovascular Disease	39 (28)	51 (59)	90 (87)
B.46(6)	Other Diseases of Circulatory System	12 (20)	23 (21)	35 (41)
B.31	Influenza	1 (5)	- (4)	1 (9)
B.32	Pneumonia	26 (29)	25 (41)	51 (70)
B.33(1)	Bronchitis and Emphysema	15 (13)	7 (3)	22 (16)
B.33(2)	Asthma	3 (2)	- (3)	3 (5)
B.46(7)	Other Diseases of Respiratory System	5 (7)	3 (4)	8 (11)
B.34	Peptic Ulcer	6 (2)	3 (1)	9 (3)
B.36	Intestinal Obstruction and Hernia	3 (3)	3 (1)	6 (4)
B.37	Cirrhosis of Liver	- (1)	2 (1)	2 (2)
B.46(8)	Other Diseases of Digestive System	3 (1)	5 (9)	8 (10)
B.38	Nephritis and Nephrosis	- (1)	1 (1)	1 (2)
B.39	Hyperplasia of Prostate	1 (2)	- (-)	1 (2)
B.46(9)	Other Diseases, Genito-Urinary System	3 (3)	4 (5)	7 (8)
B.46(10)	Diseases of Skin, Subcutaneous Tissue	- (-)	1 (-)	1 (-)
B.46(11)	Diseases of Musculo-Skeletal System	1 (-)	2 (1)	3 (1)
B.42	Congenital Anomalies	3 (4)	3 (3)	6 (7)
B.43	Birth Injury, Difficult Labour, etc.	1 (1)	- (1)	1 (2)
B.44	Other Causes of Perinatal Mortality	3 (4)	1 (3)	4 (7)
B.45	Symptoms and Ill-Defined Conditions	3 (1)	4 (2)	7 (3)
BE.47	Motor Vehicle Accidents	7 (10)	2 (4)	9 (14)
BE.48	All Other Accidents	5 (7)	9 (7)	14 (14)
BE.49	Suicide and Self-Inflicted Injuries	3 (-)	3 (4)	6 (4)
BE.50	All Other External Causes	1 (-)	- (-)	1 (-)

TOTAL ALL CAUSES

331 (335) 341 (351) 672 (686)

COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

	Notifications According to Age Groups						Incidence Rate per 10,000 Population		
	Under 1	1-4	5-9	10-14	15-24	25 & over	Total	Chelmsford Rural District	England & Wales
Measles	9	127	103	13	4	1	259*	35.9	27.7
Dysentery	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2.2
Scarlet Fever	-	3	9	3	1	1	17	2.4	2.6
Whooping Cough	1	5	7	-	-	-	13	1.8	3.4
Acute Meningitis	-	-	1	-	-	1	2	0.3	0.4
Infective Jaundice	-	-	9	-	-	9	19†	2.6	2.9
Tuberculosis (Respiratory)	-	-	-	-	2	6	8	1.1	1.9
Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0014
Paratyphoid Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.02
Typhoid Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.03
Food Poisoning	-	-	1	-	-	1	2	0.3	1.4

*Total includes 2 cases age not known

†Total includes 1 case age not known

WATER SUPPLY

On 1st April 1972 the water supply of the Rural District became the responsibility of the Essex Water Company, and I am indebted to the General Manager for the following information.

"The water supply of the district has been satisfactory in quality and quantity during 1971. There was no incidence of contamination as shown by the chemical and bacteriological tests carried out regularly during the year. The Company's water has a slight plumbo-solvent action, though this is well within the limit recommended by the World Health Organisation. No lead piping is used in the Company's apparatus, nor is it encouraged by private owners.

Over 10 miles of additional mains were laid in the district prior to the Company's takeover. Since that date a further six miles have been completed."

ESSEX WATER COMPANY

Average Analyses of Purified Water Passing to Supply 1971

(Milligrammes per litre, except where stated)

	Langham Works	Hanningfield Works	Langford Works
Electrical Conductivity			
us/cm	741	—	780
pH value	7.7	8.6	8.8
Chlorides, C1	56	70	78
Total Oxidised Nitrogen ..	6.4	4.3	9.5
Hardness, non-carb.	131	82	96
Hardness, carbonate	216	59	49
Hardness, total	347	141	145
Free ammonia (N)	0.17	0.12	0.16
Albuminoid Nitrogen	0.12	0.16	0.16
Permanganate Value			
(4h/27°)	1.26	1.18	1.39
Iron, Fe	0.02	—	0.08
Fluoride, F	0.38	0.18	0.22

Bacteriological Examinations

No. of Testings during year	316	314	365
% of samples free from			
E.coli (Type 1) in 100 ml	100.0	100.0	98.9
% of samples free from			
Coliform bacteria in 100 ml	100.0	100.0	97.8
Maximum count of coliform bacteria per 100 ml	0	0	3

CHELMSFORD R.D.C.

Parish	Number of Dwelling Houses Supplied Direct	Number of Dwelling Houses Supplied Standpipe	Population Supplied Direct	Population Supplied Standpipe (Estimated)
Great Baddow	4,543	-	13,369	-
Galleywood	1,692	-	4,690	-
Little Baddow	515	-	1,510	-
Boreham	852	-	2,966	-
Broomfield	1,225	-	3,881	-
Chignal	123	3	360	9
Danbury	1,715	-	5,084	-
Good Easter	162	-	475	-
East Hanningfield .	240	-	746	-
South Hanningfield	315	-	971	-
West Hanningfield .	513	-	1,504	-
Highwood	220	-	645	-
Ingatestone &				
Fryerning	1,725	-	5,142	-
Gt. and Lt. Leighs .	360	3	1,055	9
Margaretting	366	-	1,073	-
Mashbury	40	-	117	-
Pleshey	121	-	355	-
Rettendon	501	4	1,468	12
Roxwell	416	-	1,219	-
Runwell	1,247	4	4,835	12
Sandon	408	-	1,326	-
Springfield	302	3	885	9
Stock	632	-	1,891	-
Great Waltham	775	-	2,072	-
Little Waltham	504	-	1,477	-
Woodham Ferrers .	1,496	10	4,412	30
Writtle	2,005	-	6,085	-
TOTAL	<u>23,013</u>	<u>27</u>	<u>69,613</u>	<u>81</u>

Total Population Supplied in District = 69,694

Total Number of Dwelling Houses = 23,040

SEWERAGE

(The following information has been provided by the Council's Engineer and Surveyor)

Public sewers are provided in the more populous areas of the following parishes:-

Great Baddow	Pleshey
Little Baddow	Rettendon (part)
Boreham	Roxwell
Broomfield	Runwell
Danbury	Sandon
Good Easter	Stock (October 1972)

South Hanningfield	Great Waltham
(Ramsden Heath and	Little Waltham
Downham area)	Woodham Ferrers and
Highwood and Loves Green	Bicknacre
Ingatestone and Fryerning	Writtle
Mountnessing	
Margareting	

Schemes are being prepared for the Parishes of Great and Little Leighs, the Ford End and Howe Street area of Great Waltham, East Hanningfield, Rettendon Bell area, West Hanningfield and North Springfield area.

NUMBER OF DWELLINGS AND ESTIMATED POPULATION IN EACH PARISH AT 31st DECEMBER, 1971

Parish	Number of Dwellings	Estimated Population
Great Baddow	6,235	18,059
Little Baddow	515	1,510
Boreham	852	2,966
Broomfield	1,225	3,881
Chignal	126	369
Danbury	1,715	5,084
Good Easter	162	475
East Hanningfield	240	746
South Hanningfield	723	2,216
West Hanningfield	513	1,504
Highwood	220	645
Ingatestone and Fryerning	1,725	5,142
Great and Little Leighs	363	1,064
Margareting	366	1,073
Mashbury	40	117
Mountnessing	493	1,445
Pleshey	121	355
Rettendon	505	1,480
Roxwell	416	1,219
Runwell	1,251	4,847
Sandon	408	1,326
Springfield	305	894
Stock	632	1,891
Great Waltham	775	2,272
Little Waltham	504	1,477
Woodham Ferrers	1,506	4,442
Writtle	2,005	6,085
TOTAL	23,941	72,854

ANNUAL REPORT
of
Chief Health Inspector,
Director of Public Cleansing
and Petroleum Inspector

To the Chairman and Members of the Chelmsford Rural District Council

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my Annual Report for the year 1971.

After almost a year, we were, in July, able to operate with a full establishment of staff and as the year drew to a close the backlog of routine work had been considerably reduced.

The meat inspection service took its now familiar course and the public cleansing service continued to meet the growing demands made upon it. The staff directly concerned with these two major services deserve warm thanks. Full details on these services appear in the Report.

As the reorganisation of local government looms ahead, we await policy decisions on a number of important matters, but none more important than that relating to the environmental health items which will be the responsibility of the new district councils. It will indeed be a pity if any of our existing functions in the field of environmental health are transferred to a remote authority.

I record my appreciation and thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Council and to the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee for the continued support and encouragement to me and to the work of the department. To Dr. Hassan, I express my thanks for his help and guidance at all times and to Mr. Smart, my Deputy, and to all other members of the staff, my appreciation is due for their work in such a wide range of duties.

I am,

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant,

T. H. C. BARTROP

INSPECTION WORK CARRIED OUT BY THE HEALTH INSPECTORS

The following table gives details of the housing work carried out during the year.

1.	Inspection of Dwelling-Houses:-	
	(1) Number of inspections for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	351
	(2) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	4
	(3) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	28
2.	Remedy of defects without service of formal notices:-	
	Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the local authority or their officers	30
3.	Action under statutory powers:-	
	Proceedings under Public Health Acts:-	
	(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	2
	(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:-	
	By Owners	20
	Proceedings under Sections 17 and 18 of the Housing Act, 1957:-	
	(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	10
	(2) Number of houses closed as a result of Closing Orders	Nil
	(3) Number of part-houses (underground room) closed as a result of Closing Orders	Nil
	(4) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders:-	
	By Owners	6
	(5) Number of dwelling-houses rendered fit for human habitation as a result of owners complying with undertakings to carry out works of repair	6
	(6) Number of houses demolished by owners as a result of informal action	6

PARTICULARS OF INSPECTIONS FOR THE YEAR 1971

HOUSING

Closet Conversions	139
Drainage - Non-Sewer	584
Drainage - Sewer	348
Sewer Connections	9
Surface Water	43
Grants - Standard	230
Grants - Special	8
Housing Inspections -	
Housing Acts	259
Housing Inspections -	
Public Health Acts	92
Housing Reinspections -	
Housing Acts	273
Housing Reinspections -	
Public Health Acts	73
Multiple Occupation	8
Overcrowding	1
Water - Mains	72
Water - Non-Mains	34
Water - Sampling	84
Water Closets	7

SPECIAL PREMISES

Factory - Power	35
Farm/Sanitary Accommodation	
Moveable Dwellings	29
Moveable Dwelling Sites	69
Offices and Shops	421
Cutworkers	5
Piggeries	32
Poultry/Broiler Houses	11
Schools	4
Swimming Pools - School	46
Swimming Pools - Private	2
Swimming Pools - Testing	42
Waste Foods Order	2

FOOD

Bakery	8
Butcher	44
Canteen/Catering	90

Confectioner/Baker	37
Fish Shop - Wet	17
Fish Shop - Fried	13
Food Factory	4
Food Poisoning	-
Greengrocer	29
Grocer/General Provisions	147
Ice Cream - Samples	39
Ice Cream - General	11
Licensed Premises	97
Meat Inspection	1488
Miscellaneous Food Visits	204
Poultry - Inspection	2
Poultry - Processing Plant	5
School Catering	103
Slaughterhouse Inspection	26
Stalls, Mobile Shops	41
Unfit Food Surrender	66
Unsatisfactory Food	61

PUBLIC CLEANSING

Cleansing - Administration	129
Cleansing - Collection	124
Cleansing - Disposal	140
Cleansing - Civic Amenities	161

MISCELLANEOUS

Air Pollution - Clean Air	212
Air Pollution - National Survey	60
Infectious Disease	10
Insect Pests	91
Keeping Animals	40
Miscellaneous	600
Noise	117
Pests Act	166
Petroleum	300

Total 7,644

PARTICULARS OF NOTICES FOR THE YEAR 1971

	SERVED		COMPLIED WITH OR CANCELLED	
	STATUTORY	INFORMAL	STATUTORY	INFORMAL
Structural Defects ..	—	22	5	44
Water Closets	1	1	19	2
House Drainage	2	10	6	29
Other Drainage	—	5	—	3
Urinals	—	—	—	2
Pests	—	4	—	3
Moveable Dwellings	—	3	—	1
Slaughterhouses ...	—	4	—	5
Food Premises	—	51	—	80
Power Factories ...	—	4	—	5
Ashbins	—	1	—	6
Miscellaneous	—	7	—	5
TOTALS	3	112	30	185

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936

Section 47 (Closet Conversions)

The construction of sewers in areas of older development leads to the necessity of converting various types of closets to water closets and the Council is in these cases able to make grants under section 47 of the Public Health Act, 1936, towards the cost. Alternatively, this work may be included in an application for an improvement grant. During the year, fourteen pail/chemical closets were noted on our records as converted to water closets and connected to the main sewer as a result of action under section 47. These were distributed as follows:-

Danbury	2
Good Easter	1
Woodham Ferrers	11

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS UNDER THE HOUSING ACTS

Discretionary Improvement Grants continued to be the concern of the Engineer and Surveyor's Department and Standard Grants of this Department.

The following table gives information on the use made of this scheme during the year:-

DISCRETIONARY GRANTS

Applications received	133
Applications approved –	
Owner/occupiers	47
Others	68
Amount approved	£90,953

STANDARD GRANTS

Applications received	51
Applications approved –	
Owner/occupiers	28
Others	22
Grants paid	52
Amount paid	£14,941
Standard amenities provided –	
Bathrooms	19
Fixed bath or shower in a bathroom	34
Wash basin	35
Sinks	23
Hot water supply	48
Water closet	35
Septic Tank/Cesspool	18
Piped Water Supply	Nil

CARAVAN SITES AND CONTROL OF DEVELOPMENT ACT, 1960

During the year, twenty-nine Site Licences were in force.

The conditions attached to these licences are based on the Model Conditions, modified where necessary in respect of individual sites.

<i>Parish</i>	<i>No. of Site Licences</i>	<i>No. of Caravans</i>
Boreham	2	24
South Hanningfield	1	1
West Hanningfield	5	296
Highwood	1	4
Ingatestone	2	2
Margareting	2	4
Mountnessing	1	1
Rettendon	4	19
Sandon	2	7
Springfield	1	1
Lt. Waltham	1	2
Woodham Ferrers	3	3
Writtle	1	2
	26	366

Sites licensed for summer months only

Little Baddow	1	20
Rettendon	2	177
	3	197

ESSEX COUNTY COUNCIL ACT, 1933

Ice Cream

The number of registered premises at the end of 1971 was 130.

The retailers' sources of supply and premises are investigated before certificates are issued.

Ice Cream Sampling, 1971

The following is a summary of the results obtained from the examination of 76 samples of ice cream and ice lollies during 1971.

Ice Cream Ministry of Health Provisional Grading

I	II	III	IV	Total
48	3	1	4	56

Ice Lollies and Cream Lollies		
Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Total
20	—	20

Of these samples, 53 were obtained from fixed premises and 23 from mobile vans.

CONDEMNED FOODSTUFFS

During 1971, the following food (other than meat and offal in slaughterhouses) was condemned as unfit for human consumption and voluntarily surrendered by the owners concerned.

	Pounds
Meat, poultry and offal	1,154
Cooked meat, preserved meat and other meat products	51
Canned meat	414
Canned fruit and vegetables	190
Fish	70
Pasta	2,198
Fresh vegetables fruit and nuts	157
Imported runner beans	1,870
Sugar	10
Frozen foods (including ice cream products) ..	3,771 packs
Cakes and biscuits	61 packs
Sweets and confectionery	1,099 packs
Bread	79 loaves
Eggs	10 dozen

FOOD HYGIENE (GENERAL) REGULATIONS, 1970

Regulation 18 requires the provision of wash-hand basins together with an adequate supply either of hot and cold water or of hot water at a suitably controlled temperature (except that cold water only is required when no open food handled) and soap (or detergent), nail brushes and drying facilities.

Regulation 21 requires the provision of facilities for washing food and equipment by means of sinks provided (with certain exceptions) with either hot and cold water or of hot water at a suitably controlled temperature, together with soap (or detergent) and clean cloths or other adequate and suitable cleaning and drying facilities.

	Number of Premises
Bakery	11
Confectioner/Baker	37
Canteen/Catering	97
Butcher	28
Fish Shops	7
Grocer/General Provisions	98
Greengrocer	15
Licensed Premises	119
Miscellaneous	17
TOTAL	429

All the premises comply with Regulations 18 and 21.

SWIMMING POOLS

There is no public swimming pool in the District. The number of small, private swimming pools (often pre-fabricated) continues to grow and although there is no control over these, we have been pleased to advise on sterilisation and other problems in some cases. A number of schools, state and private, are also being provided with swimming pools. Regular testing (for chlorine content and pH) is carried out at these pools.

WATER SAMPLING

During 1971, a total of 84 samples of mains, well and spring water were taken as follows:-

Samples for bacteriological examination from new and existing mains	53
Samples for bacteriological examination from existing mains	2
Samples for bacteriological examination from well or spring supply	25
Samples for chemical and bacteriological examination from well or spring supply	4

The work under this heading has fallen off during the year, because the Essex Water Company undertake their own sampling of new and replacement mains. Spot checks on the water supplied from the mains continued.

MILK SUPPLY

The Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food is responsible for the supervision of dairy farms. This Council, under the Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations, 1959, is responsible for the registration of distributors of milk and for the registration of dairy premises. The Essex County Council, under the Milk and Dairies (Special Designations) Regulations, 1963, is responsible for issuing dealer's licences and supplementary licences.

BAKEHOUSES

The following table shows the number of bakehouses in use at the end of the year:-

Great Baddow	Carters (Gt. Baddow) Ltd.
Broomfield	G. H. Follett.
Ingatestone and Fryerning	E. Warder.
	S. Raven.
Rettendon	H. and E. Benson
Great Waltham	Bigg Bros.
Little Waltham	E. W. Amos, Ltd.
Woodham Ferrers	Taylor and Woodland.

POULTRY INSPECTION

The difficulties of providing a local authority-based inspection service for poultry may be gauged by the fact that the output from one premises alone is nearly 5,000,000 birds a year. At these premises, the firm's own inspection and quality control service is checked from time to time and is considered to be a satisfactory one. The premises were purpose-built and the standard of the equipment and hygiene is of a high order. The percentage of birds rejected was 0.7.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

The following information is taken from the annual Report for 1971 submitted to the Ministry of Labour under section 60 of the Act. The figures for 1970 are given in brackets.

Registrations and General Inspections:

	No. of premises registered during the year.	No. of registered premises at end of the year.	No. of registered premises receiving a general inspection.
Offices	14 (6)	75 (71)	22 (19)
Retail Shops	38 (12)	190 (177)	124 (75)
Wholesale shops, warehouses	1 (-)	9 (11)	4 (2)
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens	7 (-)	38 (34)	12 (1)
Fuel storage depots	- (-)	1 (1)	1 (-)
	<hr/> 60 (18)	<hr/> 313 (294)	<hr/> 163 (97)

The number of visits of all kinds to registered premises was 431 (101).

Analysis of persons employed in registered premises by workplace:

Class of Workplace	Persons Employed
Offices	708
Retail shops	671
Wholesale departments, warehouses	68
Catering establishments open to the public	160
Canteens	27
Fuel storage depots	3
	<hr/> 1,637

This total is made up to 847 males and 790 females.

One accident (non-fatal) was reported and investigated during the year.

AIR POLLUTION

1971 was the seventh full year in which the semi-automatic smoke and sulphur dioxide recording instrument at the Water Tower, Mountnessing, was in operation. The readings for the month of October were incomplete owing to a technical fault in the apparatus and have to be disregarded.

The mean daily recordings for each month of these years is set out below, from which it will be seen that the seasonal pattern of smoke and sulphur dioxide concentrations continues.

Although the concentration of smoke grows less, no real progress appears to have been made in reducing the concentration of sulphur dioxide.

Arithmetic Means of Daily concentrations in micrograms per cubic metre.

Smoke

	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971
January	45	53	43	35	30	36	28
February	41	26	36	31	72	38	28
March	37	33	13	17	22	15	16
April	19	17	13	17	11	13	12
May	14	13	10	11	6	11	8
June	10	12	10	9	6	8	8
July	9	10	10	8	7	8	8
August	13	12	10	10	8	9	9
September	24	18	15	12	11	11	20
October	34	21	14	18	24	17	-
November	46	42	33	43	24	20	23
December	59	23	46	25	37	33	25
Year	29	23	21	20	21	18	17

Sulphur Dioxide

	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971
January	82	75	101	89	91	74	99
February	52	62	81	78	95	79	92
March	84	86	60	56	53	64	65
April	48	50	44	65	52	63	50
May	45	47	56	47	57	49	49
June	36	47	60	52	51	71	43
July	38	41	70	45	68	48	54
August	41	41	62	43	56	52	58
September	60	50	49	47	49	63	69
October	39	47	56	60	66	61	-
November	56	75	76	50	71	75	76
December	110	91	104	66	95	84	78
Year	58	59	68	58	67	65	67

ADMINISTRATION OF THE FACTORIES ACT, 1961

1. INSPECTIONS for the purpose of provisions as to health including inspections made by Health Inspectors.

	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspec- tions	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	—	—	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	224	35	—	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority) excluding out-workers' premises)	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	224	35	—	—

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

	Number in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Reme- died	Referred to H.M. Inspector	by H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Insufficient Conveniences (S.7)	4	5	—	—	—
Unsuitable or defective Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other Offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork)	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	4	5	—	—	—

OUTWORK

	Section 133			Section 134		
	No. of out-workers in August	No. of cases default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Notices served	Prosecutions
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Basket making	—	—	—	—	—	—
Wearing apparel	17	—	—	—	—	—
Miscellaneous	4	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	21	—	—	—	—	—

MEAT INSPECTION

The meat inspection service was again maintained throughout the year and every animal slaughtered in the District for human consumption received a detailed inspection in accordance with the requirements of the Meat Inspection Regulations, 1963. The total number of animals slaughtered and inspected was 113,267 (107,120 in 1970) and the amount of meat and edible offal found diseased, unsound or unfit for human consumption totalled 85 tons 3 cwts. 82 lb. (95 tons 17 cwts. 68 lb. in 1970).

The number of animals inspected and affected with disease, etc., are set out in the following Table 1, the figures in brackets relating to the year 1970.

TABLE 1 — Animals inspected and number affected with disease, etc.

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Goats
Number inspected	6,599 (5,841)	1,988 (2,044)	188 (266)	29,782 (23,820)	74,710 (75,148)	— (—)
ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS						
Whole carcases condemned	5 (2)	2 (4)	5 (6)	12 (9)	145 (133)	— (—)
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	1,814 (2,356)	903 (930)	4 (8)	4,045 (4,141)	24,460 (30,448)	— (—)
Percentage of the number inspected affected	27.3 (40.1)	45.5 (45.7)	4.8 (5.3)	13.6 (17.4)	32.9 (40.7)	— (—)
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY						
Whole carcases condemned	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	1,141* (1,399*)	— (—)
Percentage of the number inspected affected	0.0 (0.0)	0.0 (0.0)	0.0 (0.0)	0.0 (0.0)	1.5* (1.9*)	— (—)

*This figure includes reference to cases of *Corynebacterium equi*, which is difficult to distinguish from tuberculosis with the resources available.

The amount of tubercular meat (5 tons 10 cwts. 33 lb.) was approximately 6.5% of the total, compared with 7.4% in 1970. Two significant and encouraging items to report are that for the fourth successive year no evidence of tuberculosis in adult bovines was found and the incidence of disease generally showed a continuing decline.

One bovine carcase was found to be affected with the viable parasite *Cysticercus bovis* which causes the condition commonly known as "measly beef".

All the meat condemned was voluntarily surrendered by those concerned and it was not necessary to resort to any legal action.

TABLE 11 — Number of condemnations and reasons therefor.

CATTLE, INCLUDING COWS

	No. of whole or parts	No. of whole or parts	
HEAD		SKIRT	
Abscesses	4	Abscesses	4
Actinobacillosis/ Actinomycosis	17	Blood splashing	4
Congestion	3	Cysts	1
Contamination	4	Contamination	10
Cysts	4	Cysticercus bovis	1
Cysticercus bovis	2	Peritonitis	20
Interstitial myositis	1		
Oedema	1		
HEART		SPLEEN	
Cysticercus bovis	1	Congestion	6
Blood splashing	3	Cysts	1
Cysts	4	Inflammation	1
Pericarditis	15		
KIDNEY		TONGUE	
Abscesses	6	Abscesses	1
Cysts	8	Actinobacillosis/ Actinomycosis	18
Nephritis	46	Contamination	1
Petechial haemorrhage	2	Cysticercus bovis	2
LIVER		Cysts	2
Abscesses	514	Traumatism	4
Cirrhosis	3		
Cysts	8		
Degeneration	26		
Distomatosis	1,520		
Hepatitis	9		
Melanosis	2		
Parasites (other)	18		
Telangiectasis	162		
LUNGS		PARTS OF CARCASSES	
Abscesses	29	Abscesses	5
Congestion	14	Arthritis	2
Contamination	36	Atrophy	1
Cysts	14	Bruising	8
Distomatosis	9	Fat necrosis	4
Emphysema	20	Oedema	1
Melanosis	1	Peritonitis	1
Pleurisy	115		
Pneumonia	109		
		CARCASES AND ALL ORGANS	
		Abnormal odour	1
		Cysticercus bovis (generalised)	1
		Oedema	1
		Pyaemia	2
		Septicaemia	1
		Septic peritonitis	1

SHEEP AND LAMBS

	No. of whole or parts		No. of whole or parts
HEART		PLUCK	
Blood splashing	5	Contamination	65
Cysticercus ovis	6	Inflammation	43
Pericarditis	5	Parasites	7
LIVER		PARTS OF CARCASES	
Distomatosis	580	Abscesses	7
Parasites (other)	2,980	Arthritis	13
LUNGS		Bruising	5
Contamination	3	Oedema	3
Parasites	189	CARCASES AND ALL ORGANS	
Pleurisy	3	Cysticercus ovis	1
Pneumonia	16	Emaciation	6
		Moribund	1
		Oedema	2
		Septic pneumonia	2

CALVES

PARTS OF CARCASES		CARCASES AND ALL ORGANS	
Pneumonia	6	Joint III	1
		Oedema	1
		Septic pericarditis	2
		Septic pneumonia	1

PIGS

FLARE		LUNGS	
Abscesses .....	.65	Congestion	4,510
Contamination .....	.22	Pleurisy	1,361
Inflammation	2,752	Pneumonia	9,151
HEAD AND TONGUE		MESENTERY	
Abscesses .....	.92	Enteritis .....	.67
Bruising .....	.6	Peritonitis	2,288
Contamination .....	.1	Tuberculosis .....	.560
Tuberculosis .....	.967	PARTS OF CARCASES	
HEART		Abscesses .....	.315
Endocarditis .....	.6	Arthritis .....	.563
Pericarditis	1,012	Atrophy .....	.1
KIDNEY		Blood splashing .....	.2
Cysts .....	.487	Bruising .....	.96
Infarcts .....	.4	Oedema .....	.5
Nephritis .....	.645	Peritonitis .....	.2
Pyelonephritis .....	.2	Septic pleurisy .....	.4
LIVER		Skin rash .....	.51
Ascarides	14,234	Swine erysipelas .....	.4
Cirrhosis	3,247	Traumatism .....	.11

	No. of whole or parts		No. of whole or parts
PLUCK			
Abscesses	2	Lymphosarcoma	2
Contamination	6	Moribund	3
Inflammation	2,913	Multiple abscesses	34
CARCASES AND ALL ORGANS			
Bruising	6	Odour	1
Congestion	6	Oedema	19
Emaciation	17	Pyaemia	25
Enteritis	1	Septic arthritis	1
Fevered	1	Septic pericarditis	2
Gangrene	1	Septic peritonitis	10
Jaundice	5	Septic pleurisy	1
		Septic pneumonia	2
		Swine erysipelas	2
		Uraemia	6

This report shows, in my opinion, that the high standard of this Council's meat inspection service has been maintained and the Council, and the consumer public, may be assured that all meat that goes out of this District is inspected by a qualified inspectorate working with a skill and thoroughness that such an essential public service demands.

The maintenance of the meat inspection service continues to dominate the work of the department. That the service has been maintained speaks well for the co-operation of the staff, especially during those periods when absences for sickness, holiday and other reasons put additional duties on the remaining staff.

Slaughterhouses

J. Copsey and Sons Ltd., "Rothmans", High Street,
Great Baddow.
F. D. Mahoney, Ltd., Ramsden Heath.

Slaughtermen's Licences

Under the Slaughter of Animals Act, 1958, the department is responsible for the issue of licences to and the supervision of slaughtermen practising within the District. In 1971 seventeen licences were issued.

DISEASES OF ANIMALS ACT, 1950 DISEASES OF ANIMALS (WASTE FOODS) ORDER, 1957

This Order prohibits the feeding of unboiled waste foods to certain animals or to poultry and requires, in general, all premises where waste food boiling is carried out to be licensed with the local authority. The Order also contains other controls designed to prevent the spread of foot-and-mouth and other diseases.

There are four licensed boiling plants in this District.

ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENT ACT, 1963

This Act provides, with a few exceptions, for the annual licensing of boarding establishments for cats and dogs.

Conditions are attached to each licence and these have regard to the accommodation, control of infection, food and drink, fire precautions, exercising facilities and other allied matters.

The Council has appointed Messrs. Newsholme, Fairhead, Felgate, and Smith, M's.R.C.V.S., as Veterinary Officers. All the premises, prior to and after licensing, are inspected and reported upon by the Veterinary Officers.

At the end of the year, fourteen licences were in force, distributed as follows:-

Mr. and Mrs. R. C. Aston, Longmead, Stock Road, Galleywood.

Mrs. J. M. Lee, Springwood Boarding Cattery, Chignal.

Mr. J. L. Marfleet, Bonteel Cattery, Old Barn Lane,

Rettendon Common. (East Hanningfield parish)

Mr. J. H. Bailey, Ladybird Kennels, Roman Road, Ingatestone.

Mr. & Mrs. L. Seager, Disney Kennels, Main Road, Widford.

(Margaretting parish)

Messrs. P. Blow and T. D. Lockett, Eastfields, Main Road, Margaretting.

Mrs. M. Neave and Miss P. M. Neave, Buckhatch Farm,

Rettendon Common, Rettendon.

Mr. & Mrs. G. Lindsey, Gayfields Kennels, Woodham Road,
Battlesbridge, Rettendon.

Mr. & Mrs. I. Frith, Salcombe Kennels, Chalk Street, Rettendon.

Mr. R. O. Goodrich and Mrs. R. L. Goodrich, Chelmerton Kennels,
Roxwell Road, Roxwell.

Mrs. J. F. Scott, 56 Church End Lane, Runwell.

Miss J. E. Heard, Jeaneves Kennels, Hall Lane, Sandon.

Mrs. C. Swift, Greenwoods Farm, Stock.

Mrs. M. Bailey, Fairybridge Kennels, Domsey Lane, Little Waltham.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

Refuse Collection

The refuse collection service continued to expand to meet the new development throughout the District. At the end of the year, approximately 460 (750 in 1970) "premises" were receiving a fortnightly service, 26,365 (23,650) a weekly service and 160 (154) a twice-weekly service.

There was a marked improvement during the year in maintaining a fixed day collection service, probably due to a substantial fall in the amount of labour lost through sickness and other causes. We were able to recruit some eight students as temporary collectors during the holiday season.

The number of complaints by members of the public regarding the public cleansing service was relatively few and mostly confined to periods following Public Holidays. It is interesting to record that several letters of commendation were also received during the year.

The skip (bin-site) system of collection still operated generally throughout the District, but the trial scheme in the parish of Roxwell utilising sacks as bin liners continued satisfactorily. The use of plastic sacks has proved advantageous.

During the latter part of the year the Work Study team commenced detailed studies of the collection routes with a view to complete re-organisation and introduction of a revised Incentive Bonus Scheme during 1972.

The collection service was improved in some parishes by replacing a fortnightly service with a weekly service.

Collections from fenced compounds containing refuse sacks on stands sited on certain unmade roads in the parishes of Woodham Ferrers, Rettendon and Runwell continued.

The system of collection of refuse sacks from a purpose-built compound to serve Runwell Hospital continued.

The bulk container system continued to expand and at the end of the year 117 containers (1½ cubic yard) on hire from the Council and a further 13 containers publicly or privately-owned were serviced regularly, in many cases twice-weekly. These containers are sited to serve schools, flats, offices, shops and trade premises.

The special collection service continued and 1,680 requests were dealt with during the year. Requests from house-holders for the special collection of any bulky item of refuse, including unwanted furniture, washing machines, refrigerators and the like were dealt with within a few days, free-of-charge, using a vehicle specially allocated for the purpose. This service is greatly appreciated by the public and helps to reduce indiscriminate dumping.

Statistics indicate an increase in productivity of 7.3% during 1971, in terms of the number of "collection units" per man per day.

Tribute is paid to the success of the Joint Works Committee in maintaining good industrial relations with the refuse collection workmen. This Committee, which is formed from the men's elected representatives, shop stewards and members of the staff, meets monthly to discuss day-to-day problems and possible grievances. The establishment at the end of 1971 was as follows:

30 Heavy Refuse Collection Vehicle Drivers
17 Refuse Collectors
1 Foreman
1 Tip Attendant
2 Mechanical Shovel Drivers
2 Fitter/Mechanics
2 Special Collectors
Depot Clerk
Public Cleansing Inspector
Public Cleansing Supervisor

Public Cleansing Depot

The accommodation includes garages, workshop, stores, offices, workmen's messroom, locker room, clothes drying room, sanitary accommodation, washing facilities, vehicle washdown bay, diesel storage tank and pump, and yard area.

The workshop is fully equipped with a heavy duty vehicle lift, compressed air equipment, steam cleaner and welding equipment.

An area of land (0.4 acre) adjoining the Depot was purchased during the year to form an extension and link with the Engineering Depot, owned by the Council. A retaining wall and fencing were constructed and the low lying area filled with earth to form a yard area when settlement has taken place. Proposals for 1972 include a heavy-duty vehicle ramp, an underground diesel storage tank and pump on an island site, extension of the workmen's car park and office alterations.

Refuse Disposal

All refuse collected by the Council from the Chelmsford Rural District was disposed of by controlled tipping in a worked-out gravel pit off Little Waltham Road, Broomfield, purchased by the Council in 1960. Refuse arising from the Borough of Chelmsford was also disposed of at this site from January to the end of May.

Refuse arriving at the tip is not weighed as a routine practice, but using the formula of 265 tons per 1,000 population per year, a figure of 25,220 tons is obtained, 6,405 tons of which arose from the Borough of Chelmsford.

The life of this tip is now very short and proposals for future disposal arrangements must be carefully considered. These proposals must be looked at in the light of the proposed re-organisation of local government.

The continued development in the District has produced an increasing volume of trade refuse to be disposed of and stricter controls were imposed.

No radioactive waste or abandoned vehicle bodies were disposed of at the tip but carcases of dogs, cats and other small animals from veterinary surgeons practices and from road accidents were satisfactorily dealt with.

Transport

The transport for the public cleansing service is set out on page 38. The fleet was augmented during the year by two Norba/Dennis 60 and one Dennis Paxit 70 refuse collection vehicles. Two Shelvoke and Drewry Fore-and-Aft Tipping collection vehicles were taken out of service during the year. One of these two vehicles (Fleet No. 19) was sold to an adjoining local authority and the other (Fleet No. 21) was sold as scrap.

All repairs and maintenance of the vehicles operated by the Department, with the exception of major overhauls to the packer box assemblies on the Pakamatic vehicles, are carried out in the Depot workshop. The two fitter/mechanics continued to operate within the terms of the wages productivity agreement drawn up within the Department.

Traffic Accidents

Despite the continuing growth of traffic in the area and an increase in the number of vehicles on the road, I am very pleased to be able to report that the number of traffic accidents declined from thirty-four in 1970 to seventeen in 1971.

There was no major damage to any of our vehicles.

Civic Amenities Act, 1967

No satisfactory solution has been found to the problem of the indiscriminate dumping of refuse and litter on waste land, roadside verges and laybys. This 'pollution' of our countryside continues unabated in spite of the free services and facilities offered by the Council.

Any dumps or accumulations of litter brought to the notice of the Department by Parish Councils, local organisations or individual members of the public are dealt with as expeditiously as possible. Large warning notices have been erected on many troublesome spots. The use of large concrete tubes as litter containers on laybys was discontinued and a system of utilising paper sacks on purpose-made stands was introduced. A warning notice prohibiting dumping alongside the stand was erected on each layby. The results of this policy are very encouraging in that the volume of dumped refuse fell considerably.

Several parishes took advantage of the Council's offer to station a collection vehicle on a selected site on a pre-arranged date to which members of the public could take their bulky items of refuse for disposal.

One more permanent site for the stationing of a 14 cubic yard container was established during the year in the parish of Boreham. The other two sites in the parishes of Little Waltham and Writtle continued in operation and further sites in the parishes of Great Baddow and Broomfield are under consideration.

The refuse tip at Broomfield is available to members of the public from the Chelmsford Rural District to deposit bulky house refuse from Monday to Friday and on Saturday mornings. Some restrictions were imposed in an attempt to prevent dumping of trade and domestic waste arising from other areas.

PUBLIC CLEANSING TRANSPORT

Fleet No.	Type	Capacity cu. yds	Date purchased	Mileage 1971
19*	Shelvoke and Drewry Fore-and-Aft Tipper (Bulk Loader)	16/18	1962	1,909
21*	Shelvoke and Drewry Fore-and-Aft Tipper (Bulk Loader Power Press)	25	1963	3,185
22	Shelvoke and Drewry Fore-and-Aft Tipper (Power Press)	25	1964	7,174
23	Shelvoke and Drewry Fore-and-Aft Tipper (Power Press)	25	1964	5,647
24	Bedford 15 cwt. Truck (Petrol)	-	1965	3,945
25	Shelvoke and Drewry Pakamatic	35	1965	5,357
26	Shelvoke and Drewry Pakamatic	35	1966	5,322
28	Shelvoke and Drewry Pakamatic	35	1967	7,407
29	Shelvoke and Drewry Fore-and-Aft Tipper (Bulk Loader Power Press)	25	1968	6,813
30	Shelvoke and Drewry Pakamatic	35	1968	5,857
31	Shelvoke and Drewry Pakamatic	35	1968	9,532
32	Shelvoke and Drewry Pakamatic	35	1968	8,036
33	B.M.C. Eagle Body Side Loader	7	1968	12,575
34	B.M.C. Mini Pick-up Truck (Petrol)	-	1969	7,186
35	Shelvoke and Drewry Pakamatic	35	1969	5,732
36	Shelvoke and Drewry Pakamatic	35	1969	5,487
37	Shelvoke and Drewry Pakamatic	35	1969	6,857
38	Landrover Truck	-	1970	4,955
39	B.M.C. Mini Pick-up Truck (Petrol)	-	1970	6,661
40	Ford Transit Truck	-	1970	14,232
41	Norba/Dennis	50	1970	9,591
42	Norba/Dennis	50	1970	6,542
43+	Dennis Paxit 70	70	1971	5,876
44+	Norba/Dennis	60	1971	3,065
45+	Norba/Dennis	60	1971	2,716
			TOTAL	161,119

* Taken out of service during 1971.

Total Mileage 1970 165,096

+ Brought into service during 1971.

Cesspool Emptying Service

This service came into operation on the 18th February 1963, and by the end of 1971, 3,882 applications had been received.

Nightsoil Collection

A weekly collection of nightsoil from fourteen premises in the Battlesbridge area of Rettendon is carried out by a private contractor, Mr. G. Barker of Steeple.

PEST DESTRUCTION — RATS AND MICE

The number of recorded complaints regarding the presence of rats and mice totalled 383, of which 276 related to rats and 107 to mice.

349 of these complaints were referred to the Council's contractors (West Essex Rabbit Clearance Society Ltd.) for the necessary treatment. 47 of the cases were on Council property.

The free issue of poisoned bait from the office has continued and during the year some 250 issues were made.

PETROLEUM (REGULATION) ACTS, 1928 & 1936

The programme of routine tests to those petroleum storage tanks which required them due to their age was completed as planned.

There were no incidents involving petroleum spirit reported during the year.

Table I	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971
Pressure tests on new tanks	25	10	10	6	6
Pressure tests on old tanks	-	19	3	5	5
Ullage tests on old tanks	1	3	28	15	19
Incidents	2	2	-	-	-
General inspections	*	*	46	104	26
Number of letters sent concerning contraventions of conditions	*	*	*	55	2
Number of visits for all purposes	80	132	211	278	276
Number of licences granted during the year	186	178	170	171	166

*Records not easily available

Table II

Results of tests carried out on existing petroleum tanks.

Number of tanks 10 years old	1	Passed test	1
Number of tanks 12 years old	1	Passed test	1
Number of tanks 20 years old	10	Passed test	9
Number of tanks 25 years old	2	Passed test	2
Number of tanks 30 years old	7	Passed test	6
Number of tanks 40 years old	3	Passed test	3
	24		22

The tanks which failed the test, together with seven others taken out of use, have been or are to be rendered safe in accordance with the statutory requirements. The tests on the ten and twelve year old tanks were carried out because of suspected leakage, but were found to be satisfactory.

To instance how potentially dangerous disused petroleum storage tanks can be, two of the very old tanks at Bridge Motors, Ingateshaw, had been disused and filled with water and sand at some time prior to 1954; although safe in that condition, when they were lifted from the ground they began to leak and immediately after the water content had drained away the petroleum vapour content was again up in the explosive range.

